Get in touch
If any of our pictures bring back memories for you, let us know by emailing james.milner@reachplc.com.

city concert

The bombed house in Barrow Road

Man killed outside house in air raid – 1940

DURING raids in East Anglia last night a heavy high explosive bomb landed immediately in front of two houses in a residential part of a town. Both houses were wrecked and fire broke out.

The occupant of one, a company manager who was in front of the house, was killed instantly. His wife, who was in the kitchen at the rear, escaped injury. Their children had been evacuated.

The headmaster of a well-known public school and his wife who live in the other house were not hurt.

Some half a dozen other houses in the road were damaged and many windows were blown in.

Some hours later, when raiders were again over the town, two high explosive bombs were dropped and landed in open country. Some fowls were killed and there was some damage to property, but no personal casualties.

An oil bomb which fell close by partially buried itself in the earth. It was, however, rendered harmless a few minutes after.

Another bomb which fell two miles from the centre of the town brought one house to the ground and severely damaged about a dozen others. The only casualty was one person slightly cut but some livestock were killed.

A soldier's nightmare – 1914

A WOUNDED soldier lying at Cambridge Military Hospital has a nightmare every night.

"We had captured eight German guns when the enemy were reinforced with 4,000 more men. One of the shells we call 'coal boxes' came amongst us, killing 60 of us and leaving just me and a Coldstream Guard. We were wounded but pretended to be dead.

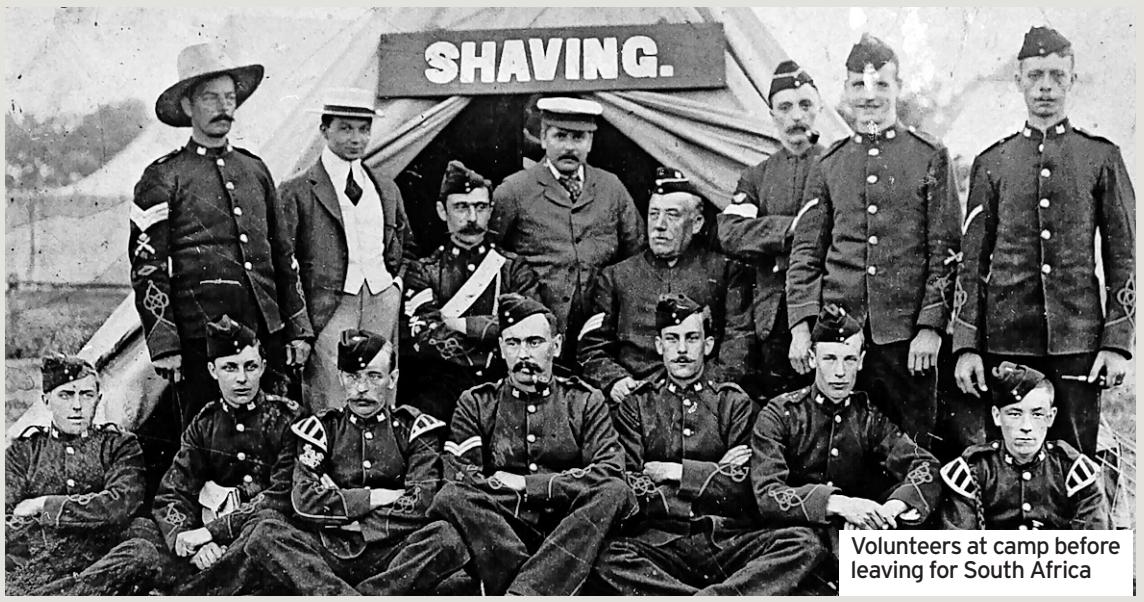
"German cavalry rode over where we lay, the wheels of one of the gun carriages going over my foot. Next morning, we found our comrades all cut to pieces. Every time I close my eyes I go through it again."

MR G.W. HODDER has received a letter from his son with a German bullet hole clean through it. He was carrying it in his jacket pocket at the time.

'Bim' writes: "We are quartered in a lay-loft; it is a bit smelly but it's warm and dry after nights spent under the stars.

"We have got Roger Hepburn of Magdalene with us. He is one of the best. There have been things to see which are not good for human sight – men torn to pieces. The only thing I have been really badly off for is boots."

Husbands and fathers 'have gone forth to fight' – 1899



Volunteers at camp before leaving for South Africa

HOMES there are today in the town and county of Cambridge which are without a head because husbands and fathers have responded to the call upon reserves to join their regiments.

Cambridgeshire has already made a significant contribution to the British strength in South Africa while those left behind are in deepest anxiety as to the safety of their absent ones.

We owe it to ourselves as Englishmen to see that the wives and children do not suffer in material comfort because the breadwinners have gone forth to fight.

Many are reduced to living upon the government allowance of a few shillings in the week.

We would take the liberty of suggesting that the mayor of Cambridge should open a fund for the families of reserve men and the active interest of Alderman Kett makes it appropriate that he should put himself at the head of the movement.

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